

Message Text

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43

ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 ACDA-07 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01

ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01

PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAL-01 AF-08 EA-07

EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /153 W
----- 117746

O 031629Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8482

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3084

FROM LOS DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, OVIP (LEWIS, SAMUEL W), VE

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICAN CONTINENTAL SHELF ISSUE

1. WE WOULD PREFER THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS NOT DISCUSS IN ANY DEPTH WITH THE VENEZUELAN THE QUESTION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OFF PUERTO RICO. THIS SUBJECT INVOLVES DIFFICULT DOMESTIC ISSUES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND PUERTO RICO AND ALSO INEVITABLY IMPACTS ON THE TRANSITIONAL PROVISION (PLACED AT THE END OF PART II OF THE REVISED SINGLE NEGOTIATING TEXT) CONCERNING THE RESOURCE RIGHTS (INCLUDING THOSE ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF) OF DEPENDENT TERRITORIES.

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2. THE TRANSITIONAL PROVISION ALSO RAISES SERIOUS QUESTIONS

OF PRINCIPLE AND SUBSTANCE AS WELL AS OF OUR ABILITY TO RATIFY THE LOS TREATY. THE TRANSITIONAL PROVISION RAISES ISSUES WHICH TRANSCEND THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS AND WHICH CANNOT BE RESOLVED IN THAT CONTEXT. THE USG IS WORKING TO HAVE THE TRANSITIONAL PROVISION DELETED OR SUBSTANTIALLY MODIFIED.

3. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOULD PREFER THAT, IF ASKED ABOUT THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OFF PUERTO RICO, ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS LIMITE HIS REPLY TO SAYING THAT THE MATTER INVOLVES DELICATE AND DIFFICULT DOMESTIC ISSUES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND PUERTO RICO AS WELL AS ISSUES WHICH GO FAR BEYOND THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS, AND ALSO IMPACTS ON THE TRANSITIONAL PROVISION WHICH, UNLESS DELETED OR MODIFIED, COULD BE A NO-SIGN ISSUE FOR THE U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS MAY SAY THAT THE US LOD DELEGATION WILL BE CONSULTING WITH THE PUERTO RICAN REPRESENTATIVE ON THE US LOS DELEGATION ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OFF PUERTO RICO AND RELATED RESOURCE ISSUES DURING THE CURRENT NEW YORK SESSION OF THE LOS CONFERENCE.

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Message Attributes

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